



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/876,760	06/07/2001	Markus Scheuber	34183/233887	2221

826 7590 05/18/2006

ALSTON & BIRD LLP  
BANK OF AMERICA PLAZA  
101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000

EXAMINER

CULLER, JILL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2854

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## DETAILED ACTION

Responsive to the reply brief filed on January 18, 2006, a supplemental  
Examiner's Answer is set forth below:

### **(10) Response to Argument**

In response to applicant's argument that Mowry does not disclose a step of printing onto a printed product, Mowry discusses printing background words, see column 1, line 38-44, and printing text over these words, see column 1, lines 51-55. There is no requirement in applicant's claims regarding the method of printing, and as Mowry refers to both of these processes as printing there does not appear to be a patentable distinction between the printing of Mowry and the printing claimed by applicant.

In response to applicant's argument that Mowry does not disclose a partially transparent contrast panel, the application describes a partially transparent contrast panel as an area through which the previously written information can be read. The area of Mowry designated reference numeral 40 is printed, as discussed in column 1, lines 51-55, and allows the previously printed text, designated in area 20, to be read through the printing. By definition, printing in a negative form implies that part of the area is transparent and part of the printed background can be seen through the panel.

In response to applicant's argument that a skilled person would not combine Mowry with Frohlich because Frohlich demands an inkjet printer instead of an impact printer as required by Mowry, it is well known in the art to print using both inkjet and impact printers and it would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to use

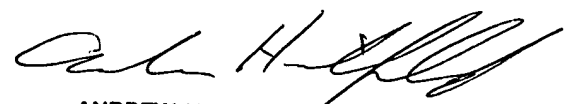
Art Unit: 2854

either of these types of printer depending upon the specific requirements of the particular application. Furthermore, there is no evidence that using an impact printer would render the results of Frohlich unusable, or that financial products would never be printed in a mass process, as it is always possible that there might be a situation where such printing might be desirable.

In response to applicant's argument that "Century of Comics" cannot be combined with Frohlich because it contradicts the method used in the reference, one having ordinary skill in the art would recognize the advantages of using an imbricated stream and would be capable of making necessary modifications to render the processes usable together.

Appellant may file another reply brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.41 within two months of the date of mailing of this supplemental examiner's answer. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are not applicable to this two month time period. See 37 CFR 41.43(b)-(c).

A Technology Center Director or designee has approved this supplemental examiner's answer by signing below:



**ANDREW H. HIRSHFELD**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800**